

The GIFT



November 2022

Great Inspiration for Thought

**Hudson United Methodist Church
2670 Hudson Aurora Rd
Hudson OH 44236**

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PASTOR'S PAGE

Some thoughts along the way...I am prone to guilt.

Feeling guilty is not a constant state of mind. It is more sporadic. There are two experiences that stir guilt in my being:

- 1) When I listen to NPR and the annual pledge campaign interrupts my listening pleasure with their incessant begging. (Although some of the gifts to incentivize a pledge do bring me to pause and consider, but I have yet to pledge)
- 2) When I pull into a parking space and there is just enough time left on the meter for me to get in and get out. Cha-Ching!

Any guesses as to why I experience guilt? I am open to your theory.

I conclude I suffer from guilt because I am benefiting from something someone else paid for. I am enjoying music or a parking space by living on someone else's dime. I don't deserve what I am receiving.

I don't like to experience guilt. I don't find pleasure in heaping guilt upon others. I am reminded God does not heap guilt on humanity. I am grateful God showers humanity with...grace.

I thank God for a gift of life I did not pay for and certainly do not deserve. Thus, when Janet and I support the mission and ministry of the church, we do so in the spirit of grace and gratitude and not guilt. I have long believed that guilt is a short-term motivator, but grace is an infinite motivator.

When do you experience guilt?

Do you ever live on someone else's dime?

If a teaching of Jesus comes to mind after reflecting on the above, email me or message me on Facebook.

Living in Hope,
Rev. Bruce

Great Inspirtion for Thought

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY

Please welcome Janet Hartley. Janet has transferred her church membership from Granger United Methodist to Hudson United Methodist.

If you would like to become a member of Hudson United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor Bruce Hartley. His contact information can be found on our website and in most Sunday church bulletins.

We are trying to make sure that our church directory is current/correct as we adopt a new software program. If you have any updates, please pass them along to Debbie King, kings7565@gmail.com More information about this software change will be coming soon. Debbie King, Membership Secretary

SIGNS OF HOPE

We welcome you to take part in the Signs of Hope, bulletin board in the main hallway. It's an interactive bulletin board, inviting you to share a thought of **Hope** either here at HUMC or in general. You will find the leaves in a small bag at the bottom right corner of the bulletin board, along with a pen and glue dot for adhering. Enjoy! We look forward to seeing **HOPE GROW**.



PAPER TOWELS FOR HUDSON FOOD PANTRY

Hudson UMC supports the Hudson Food Pantry by supplying paper towels every month for 35+ families. Staple food items **requested on a monthly basis are baked beans, fruit cups, applesauce cups, pancake mix, canned chicken and tuna.** Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Upcoming distribution is

Nov. 18 and Dec. 18. For questions, contact Nancy Kralik at nskralik@gmail.com, or 330-212-7581



CHRISTMAS AT FEED MY SHEEP**New or Like New Children and Adult Gift Items**

Do you have new or gently used gift items from years past? Ornaments, toys, puzzles, games, bobble heads, perfume, lotions, scarfs, hats, gloves, Snuggies, blankets, etc.?

Especially needed throughout these wintry months are blankets, coats, jackets, boots and other warm clothing items for men, women and children.



The deadline for Christmas donations is Wednesday, December 14.

Once a month HUMC offers a toiletry item and a choice of socks, briefs or T-shirt plus hotel-sized toiletries. Toilet paper is offered every week with 130 carry-out lunches.

Blue collection bins are located in the narthex closet, near the hand bell cabinet. Feed My Sheep is a church-based hot lunch program Fridays from 11:30a to 12:30p at Redeemer UMC (265 Cuyahoga Falls Ave.) in Akron's North Hill neighborhood. Thank you for supporting Feed My Sheep! Contact: Nancy Kralik 330 212-7581 nskralik@gmail.com

It's Coming Back ~ THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Hudson United Women in Faith are excited to bring back the Church-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner after a 2-year absence. We extend an invitation to all church families and friends to share our blessings with one another by attending the Thanksgiving Dinner on **Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 6:00 pm** in the Christian Activity Center (CAC). This is a special time to be thankful and to be able to share fellowship with one another.

Turkey, Ham, Dressing, Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce and Rolls will be provided and each family is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Please be sure to rsvp on the sign-up board in the Gathering Area. There will be a Free Will Offering with proceeds going towards HUMC Kitchen Equipment Updates.

Questions/Information contact:

Cheryl Gamble – cgamble1114@yahoo.com
or Ann Ingling - anningling@gmail.com





WHAT YOU SAID TO WELCOME REV. BRUCE AND JANE

Approximately 70 people attended 7 meet and greet sessions in July and August to get acquainted with Bruce and Janet Hartley. We extend a big thank you to the hosts of each of these sessions. In addition to the generous thoughts and comments, 19 comment sheets were gratefully received by Pastor Hartley. These comments were summarized and reported to Church Council as well as studied by Pastor Hartley. Their ideas help to direct Bruce's ministry and direction for HUMC is underway as we bring #BeUMC to fruition. Thank you all who attended the meet and greet sessions and shared your passion for our church. Many volunteered to help accomplish their dream for the congregation, to reach new people and build God's kingdom. Just a few of the comments...

Most proud of HUMC: "small group studies", "choir and music program", "love and warmth of its people", a child's comment "how dedicated and kind is everyone".

One way to reach new people/build God's kingdom: "increase awareness of our ministries", "be involved in the community and be known for something of our own", "demonstrate love and inclusiveness", and "outreach to High School students".

One Dream for our congregation/ I can help make this true: "that we are evident followers of Jesus Christ", "believe in ourselves", "robust family membership and contemporary, casual worship service", "be involved in making this world better", "outreach in the community", "grow and be a loving faith home to everyone", "exciting, vibrant child and youth programs".

Thank you!

Tom King and Bruce Hartley

Trustee Ministry

“Managing The Church’s Resources”

As we have concluded our Financial Stewardship campaign for the coming year, stewardship comes in many forms. As important as your financial gifts and treasures are so are your time and talents as we steward the physical gifts God has graced us with. While the building of the Church is not the church, it is our greatest asset and largest tool in fulfilling the mission of the church and spreading the love of Jesus Christ out into the world. The Trustees have done many things over the past few years to lessen the number of hands needed on a regular basis with the implementation and management of many preventative maintenance initiatives that continue to be successful. This allows us to continue our mission to be good stewards of all that God has blessed us with and to be prepared when things do break or need done to address them swiftly. The Trustees can't do it alone, even with our great caretaker, and are very grateful for the support of the congregation, both in keeping the care and repair fund healthy and also physically being present to lend a hand.

Currently, the trustees have a number of projects going on, caring to our aging HVAC system, readying the parsonage for rental and dealing with bringing the building up to meet some new code requirements. We also keep working at making the building more “Green” as well. As we have always done as a congregation, we have bound together to accomplish great things.

With that in mind, the Trustees would encourage you to pray fully and consider participating in some of the upcoming activities for fellowship in care of our greatest asset as we have our fall Garden Clean-up on the **12th of November** (rain date the 19th) at 9am and the Hanging of the Greens on the **4th of December**.

Take notice of just how nice our Church looks! It is evident that we take pride in our house of worship, sometimes you take that for granted, but we are blessed. It does not maintain itself though, so to keep it looking and working we need to continue to maintain our house of worship to be ready for the new ministries of the future, to encourage new fish to “swim by ” and take a look. We look forward to everyone's support.

As we wrap up our season of Stewardship, please don't forget about Care and Repair, but also Stewardship in terms of our time and talents. Have you ever thought about tithing not only your riches but also your time?

In Christ,
Dave, Jim, Wayne, Christopher, Bob, Dan, Linda

NURSERY SCHOOL



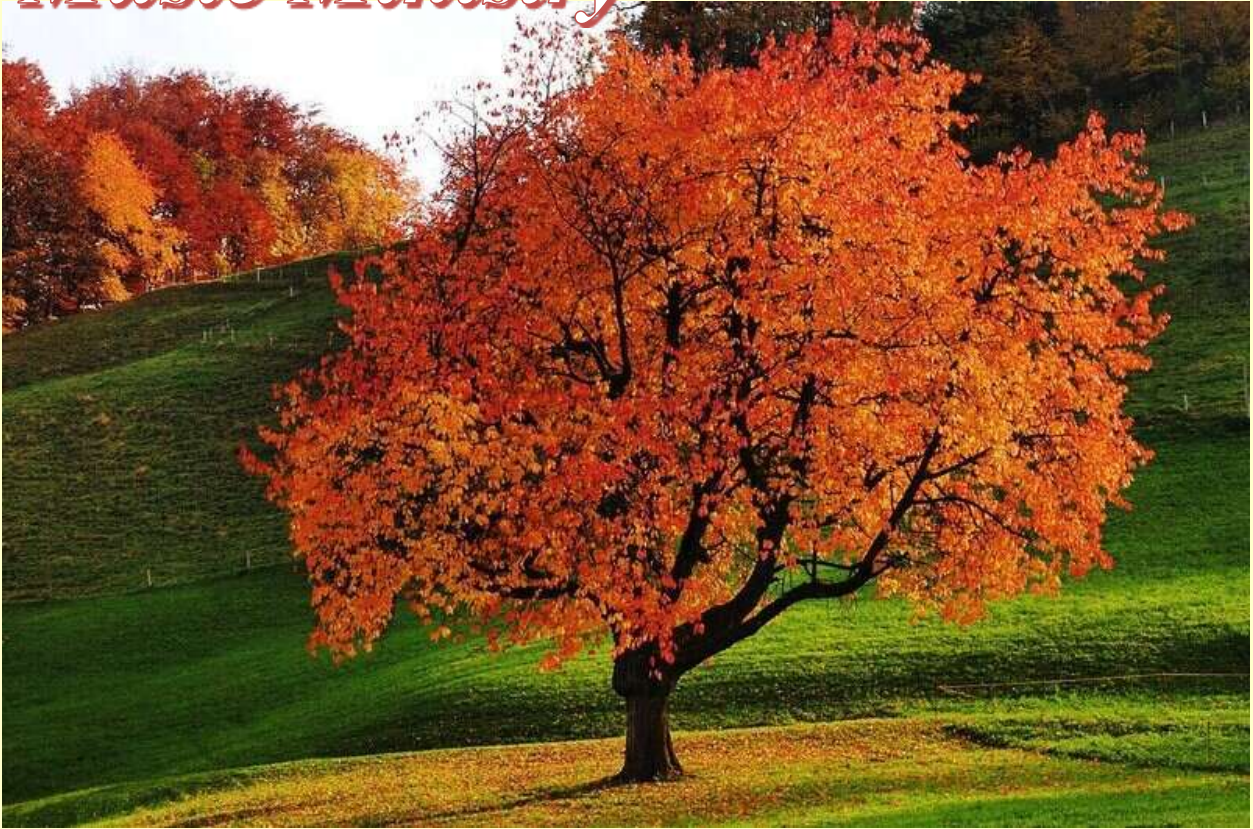
October was a blur. We had so much fun celebrating Halloween. We also had a visit from firefighter Kevin. He talked to us about all the rules of fire safety. We did many activities revolving around apples as well.

We are now off to November and will be talking about Thanksgiving and all that it brings. We will be having our Thanksgiving Feast as well this year. We are very excited to have our parents and or grandparents in the building again. We will sing songs of the season and celebrate the holiday.

We have openings in our toddler program that meets on Monday and Wednesday from 9:15-11:45. If you know anyone interested, please let them know.

Director,
Lisa VanBuskirk

Music Ministry



Psalm 95: 1 - 5

*"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.
For the Lord is the great God, The great king above all gods.
In His hand are the depths of the earth and the mountain peaks belong to Him
The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land."*

It is impossible to put into words the gratitude and wonder that wells up inside us when we look at the beauty, power, and goodness that exemplify God. A maple tree blazing with color as the sun illuminates it comes to mind for me, but you won't have to look far to see something that makes your heart sing. Music can be a vessel to express the depth of our gratitude and awe. Let us rejoice together in spirit and in song as we prepare for this season of Thanksgiving.



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith Board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the church.**

Mary Martha Circle will meet on **Thursday, November 10, 2022, from 10:00 am-11:30 am** to enjoy a program by **Angela Strach-Gotthardt, Hudson's Tea Lady at 30 Division St., Hudson, OH. Cost: \$25.** The reservation and payment deadline is **Sunday, Nov.6,** and can be given to Cheryl Maimona.

Mary Martha meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. Questions/Information contact: Cheryl Maimona: ctm2949@roadrunner.com

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Wednesday, November 16, 2022 to assist with hosting the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the church.** The dinner will be held at **6:00 pm in the Christian Activity Center (CAC).**

Priscilla Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Questions/Information contact: Ann Ingling: anningling@gmail.com, Marty Hannah marty2uin@windstream.net

Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 9:30 am on Zoom.** The book for discussion is *The Personal Librarian* by Benedict/Murray.

Books for Breakfast usually meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 9:30 am.

Questions/Information contact: Michelle Novosel: novandkoz@yahoo.com

Novels at Night will notify members by email/phone when they are ready to resume meetings.

Novels at Night usually meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 5:30 pm.

Questions/Information contact: Debby Fabian: debrah.fabian@gmail.com

We are on Facebook - check us out at, Hudson United Methodist Church Women- be sure to "Like" us to get current updates.

HUDSON UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH- FALL PROJECT

The United Women in Faith (UWF) is very happy to announce that our fall mission project of preparing hygiene kits for UMCOR is off to a wonderful beginning! We are inviting you to participate by taking a leaf or two from the tree in the Sunday school wing, shopping for the items on that leaf, and returning them under the tree. We began collecting items on October 10 and October 16 and after only two Sundays of your donations, we have collected the following: 32 hand towels, 62 washcloths, 42 toothbrushes, 44 bars of soap, 32 nail clippers, 46 one-gallon resealable bags, 120 bandages (10 bandages are required for each kit), 13 combs and monetary donations.

Your participation is so appreciated and will help many people who have been devastated by floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters. As usual, this congregation is so generous. The project will **run through November** and our goal is to donate **200** kits. Please help! Contact Angie Helmer at cawhelmer@aol.com for hints on where to shop for items at inexpensive prices.

MISSIONS

HUWF – CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET SUNDAY

Hudson United Women in Faith will be offering a Mission Moment for **Church World Service Blanket Sunday on Sunday, November 13, 2022**. Each year our church shows its caring and compassion by giving generously to the Church World Service Blanket Sunday Mission project because our neighbors deserve warmth and comfort, and because our God of great love taught us all to be compassionate. During the past year, there have been many disasters (hurricanes, flooding, wildfires, and Covid) throughout the world, including here in the United States. Each blanket cost only \$10, but they can bring support, warmth, and encouragement to those who receive them. We will have a special presentation and offering on November 13. Through this special offering, you can provide a blessing of God's love throughout His world.



SAVE THE DATE

The **Christian Unity Prayer Service (CUPS)** will be held at Hudson United Methodist Church on Thursday, **January 19, 2023**, at 10:00 am.

The theme is "Do good; seek justice".
(Isaiah 1:17)

Watch for more details in the coming months. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Gamble: cgamble1114@yahoo.com